

Introduced Version

**HOUSE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

**DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring firefighters  
Hidekatsu Kajitani, Battalion Chief Paul Watson, and Deputy Chief  
Darrick Scott.

**Tincher, Kersey**

\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

20053235

2005

HC 1026/DI 84+



## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring firefighters Hidekatsu Kajitani, Battalion Chief Paul Watson, and Deputy Chief Darrick Scott.

*Whereas, Three brave firefighters risked their lives and exposed their bodies to the extreme cold of an Indiana winter to save an injured man hanging 475 feet above them on a radio telephone tower;*

*Whereas, On Tuesday, January 18 at 12:58 p.m., the emergency dispatch call came into the Sugar Creek Fire Department in West Terre Haute;*

*Whereas, Upon arriving at the scene, firefighters found a man, whose condition was unknown, hanging three-fourths of the way up a 625 foot tower;*

*Whereas, Without thought for their own safety, the firefighters began their climb;*

*Whereas, Hidekatsu Kajitani, known as Kaji to his friends and coworkers, went first, followed by Battalion Chief Paul Watson, who climbed about halfway up, and Deputy Chief Darrick Scott;*

*Whereas, Kaji, 26, who came to the United States eight years ago to study criminology at Indiana State University, took emergency medical training as part of earning his bachelor's degree, which he believes helped him receive the position with Sugar Creek Fire Department;*

*Whereas, While living in his native Japan, Kaji had some*



*experience in rock and mountain climbing, a skill that was very helpful to him on this cold winter's day;*

*Whereas, After more than a half hour of climbing, Kaji reached the victim, Alan Cook, 45, who had regained consciousness but did not understand what was going on;*

*Whereas, It took more than an hour to assemble the system of ropes and pulleys that would be used to safely lower Alan Cook from the tower;*

*Whereas, After more than two hours on the frozen tower, Alan Cook reached the bucket of the Honey Creek Fire Department's ladder truck and the waiting paramedics;*

*Whereas, Alan Cook had apparently suffered a brain aneurysm; and*

*Whereas, Throughout our history firefighters have displayed a level of courage and bravery that far exceeds that of ordinary men; these three men are shining examples of how much we owe our brave firefighters: Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives  
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,  
the Senate concurring:*

- 1       SECTION 1. That the members of the Indiana General Assembly
- 2       wish to acknowledge the bravery of these three men and to thank them
- 3       on behalf of the grateful citizens of the State of Indiana.
- 4       SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
- 5       Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Hidekatsu
- 6       Kajitani, Deputy Chief Darrick Scott, and Battalion Chief Paul Watson.

